

KVS INCENTIVE AWARD CEREMONY
3RD NOVEMBER, 2009 AT 11.00 AM

It's a pleasure to be among the teaching fraternity of one of the best educational organizations of this country, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, and to recognize and appreciate the services of those teachers of various KVs who have devoted a lifetime in serving the cause of education. Heartiest congratulations to all the National and Incentive awardees today! The Ministry of HRD and the KVS are proud of your efforts and achievements and hope that in the coming years too all of you will serve this organization with exemplary zeal and enthusiasm.

In the past couple of years, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has been able to carve a niche for itself in the field of education in this country by working towards promoting quality in education and helping to ensure that educational and support processes have synergy for a holistic development of its students. A consistent improvement in the school results as well as the infrastructural facilities, especially in this cyber age, has helped this organization of yours to achieve a commendable lead over so many good schools of the country. A meticulously planned system of countless refresher courses and training programmes has helped hone the IT and pedagogical skills of teachers and students alike.

I am aware of the fact that the contributions of KV teachers and students have won National recognition in various fields, including IT & Olympiad. Two Kendriya Vidyalayas - KV, Sector VIII, RK Puram, New Delhi and KV, IIT Powai, Mumbai have been awarded Certificate of Accreditation by the Quality Council of India (QCI). Countless new opportunities have been opened to the children of KVs and it is hoped that this pace setting

organization will achieve many other milestones in the years to come. Achievements like these and many more are a proof of the excellent quality of work being done by the KVS in the field of education and of being a model example for other educational institutions to follow. I am here reminded of the NCF 2005 and truly believe that the constitutional values, namely democracy, debate, secularism, social justice, equity, scientific temper and so on enlisted in the framework are being religiously promoted and followed in the Kendriya Vidyalayas for which CBSE also has issued exhaustive guidelines.

In this fast changing world of the 21st century, the role of an educationist is indeed pivotal and can bring about a revolutionary change in the lives of all those you teach. The real challenge lies not in identifying winners but in making winners out of ordinary people. The process of education should be able to create individuals, who are confident, capable of carrying out their professional and social responsibilities and possess the will power to bravely combat many problems. A visionary teacher is powered by his motivation to bring about a radical change in his/her students' perspective.

I am sure many of you seated here will agree with me when I say that we all look back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers who taught us, and we feel a sense of gratitude towards all those who have touched our lives. The curriculum is a necessary raw material, but empathy is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child. Feeling gratitude for all such teachers and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it- that is where the Incentive awards come in. After all none of us got where we are today solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody - a parent, a teacher, a guide - bent down and helped us pick up our boots.

I congratulate the KVS authorities for their hard work, sincerity and determined efforts in keeping pace with the challenges of the modern world. It is indeed commendable that your organization possesses an excellent and modern Auditorium of your own and that you are in a position to hold functions on such a large scale as this. I also appreciate your efforts in recognizing the invaluable contributions of the teaching fraternity—the teachers whose devotion to their students are indeed laudable.

It is often been said that a country is as good as its people. I believe the country's citizens are only as good as their teachers. Therefore, a great deal depends on you and I salute you, all of you, for your passion, dedication, commitment and contributions.

I once again congratulate all the recipients of the National and Incentive awards. My best wishes to all of you in all your future endeavours!